

DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

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PAULINE AMSEL VICTIM OF UNKNOWN ASSASSIN

**Fourteen-year-old Daughter of Jake Amsel Met
Horrible Death as She Lay Asleep; Head
Half Severed from Body**

Father Battles With Murderer and
Is Wounded; Sister Escapes and Is
Not Captured.

This community received a terrible shock last Wednesday morning when the news spread over the country-side like wild fire, that Miss Pauline Amsel, the fourteen year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Amsel of this city, had met a horrible death at the hands of an unknown assassin, who cut her throat, almost severing her head from her body, as she lay asleep and then inflicting several knife wounds upon her father, who, awakened by her screams, went to the rescue. This fiend made his escape which seemed good for although posses of armed men are scouring the country no trace of the murderer has been found.

After receiving four wounds, any of which would have caused her death, the young girl walked down the hall to her mother's room, thence back to her own room, where she fell, in the last throes of death.

Medical aid was summoned but too late, as every artery and vein, muscle and tendon in the right side of the neck had been severed and death ensued in about thirty minutes.

Mr. and Mrs. Amsel were awakened about 1:30 in the morning by the screams of their daughter who was on the sleeping porch at the rear end of the second story of the house. The parents were in their room two doors away and when Mr. Amsel heard the screams he went to the child's assistance. The door leading to the porch was closed and as Mr. Amsel opened it he ran into a man, and immediately attacked him.

Mr. Amsel caught hold of the assassin who threatened to kill him and fired at Mr. Amsel with an automatic pistol, the bullet striking the floor and going into the wall. A shell caught in the gun and the man threw it on the floor and began to stab Mr. Amsel with a small pen knife. The men scuffled around on the porch for several minutes but every time Mr. Amsel caught hold of the man he would get away. At one time Mr. Amsel threw the man on the bed but was unable to hold him, and he broke and ran down the hallway and out of the back door and down the alley. Mr. Amsel followed as far as the street and then returned to the house.

When Mr. Amsel attacked the man and they were fighting on the porch the girl went to her mother's room, calling out that she was sick, but her mother was phoning for assistance, and Pauline turned and went back into her own room which adjoined that of her parents, went to her bed, fell across the bed, rolling into the center of the floor where she was found by her horrified parents. Mr. Amsel supposed that the child had merely been awakened by the intruder and did not know or realize that she had been injured. The entire right side was cut from the throat to the back of the neck. She received four wounds. She died at 2:10 o'clock, about thirty minutes after she had been attacked.

In the scuffle the fellow's hat came off, and this was found on the porch, as was also a gun and a razor. As the murderer went upstairs he put on one of Mr. Amsel's coats to protect his clothing in the event that he was attacked and had to fight his way out as he did. The coat was found in the basement of a new dwelling being erected for John Lorge on Ninth avenue Wednesday afternoon.

There is little question but that if Mr. Amsel had been aware that the fiend had murdered his daughter that he could have captured him. He merely thought he was in the house for robbery and that he had injured no one.

Tom Bates, who lives just west of the Amsel residence heard the screams and shot and started to the

COUNTY HAS \$100,000 CASH

Current Tax Collections for Month
of October Over \$3800; Fees
From County Offices Totaled Over
\$3000.

According to a report just issued by County Clerk McCreary, the county of Bryan had a cash balance in the various county depositories, totaling the sum of \$98,054.96. Of this amount there are \$21,007.20 on deposit in what is known as the active or checking account, in Durant banks, whilst deposits in the other banks of the county, called inactive accounts totaled the sum of \$77,077.76.

The collections for the month of October totaled the sum of \$7992.75 which was derived from the following sources: Current taxes, \$3825.01; Back taxes \$469.37; Redemption \$34.80; Mortgage tax \$447.90; miscellaneous, (fees from county offices) \$3125.45.

but his wife was ill and called for him to stay with her. When he calmed her he started to the Amsel home again, but just as he opened the door he heard the back door slam at the Amsel house and as he went down the steps he saw a man running down the alley. When he got into the alley the man had disappeared. Mr. Bates went into the house and many neighbors, who had congregated rendered assistance to the stricken family.

Fred Pendleton, who was stopping for the night at the home of Will Creager, which adjoins that of Mr. Amsel to the west, heard the shots and screams and ran toward the house in his bare feet, just in time to see the intruder coming his way. He tried to head him off, but the man turned north into the alley between the Creager and Amsel homes and there Mr. Pendleton lost trace of him. Meantime, other neighbors were roused, the phones were used and a large number of officers and neighbors quickly appeared on the scene. The news spread like wild fire and before daybreak practically everyone on a telephone line for miles around had heard of the tragedy.

Dr. R. E. Sawyer, a neighbor of Mr. Amsel, who was among the first called to their assistance, made the following statement regarding the tragedy:

"I was aroused from sleep by hearing screams and could not locate them at first. In a few seconds my phone rang and I was told to hurry to Mr. Amsel's. When I arrived there which was about thirty minutes after the attack, I found Miss Pauline lying on her back in the center of her room in a great pool of blood, gasping for breath. She lived about twenty minutes after I arrived at the house. I immediately phoned for several other physicians and after they came we made a complete examination of the wounds. Both the internal and external arteries were severed. The wound extended from the throat in front to the back of the neck, and severed all the arteries, muscles, and veins in the neck to the bone, which could be readily seen. The right jugular vein was severed. Pauline was never able to speak after I arrived and could tell nothing of the occurrence. I went to the sleeping porch and examined the bed and found blood on the pillow, and evidence of a hard struggle. After the girl had been attacked she screamed and ran to her parents' room for her mother's assistance but Mrs. Amsel was phoning for help and did not know that her daughter was wounded. A large quantity of blood was found on Mrs. Amsel's bed where the girl

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TAXES ARE MUCH LOWER THIS YEAR

General County and State Levies are
70c on the \$100 dollars Lower
Than they Were for Last Year.
All Levies are Lower.

A good example of the economy with which the affairs of the county and state the past year have been administered is given in the fact that the taxes for the year 1914 for Bryan county will average seventy-nine cents lower for each hundred dollars valuation than they were last year. This means a saving of at least \$7.90 to every man who has property assessed at a thousand dollars.

This saving helps us all alike, the rich man, making the same proportionate saving that the poor man does. The county assessment is slightly higher this year than it was last year but with the reduction in the levy, the taxes that the average man will pay, will be a lot less in dollars and cents than they were for last year.

The first half of the 1914 taxes fall due on the first of December. If half is paid by January first, an extension not time is allowed until July first 1915 for paying the second half. If the first half is not paid by January first the whole tax is delinquent and draws eighteen per cent per annum penalty.

As soon as the copy can be secured the News will print a statement of the levy, by school district and townships in Bryan county.

THE SITUATION IN MEXICO

Gutierrez Made Provisional President; Villa Chief of the Army; Carranza Refuses to resign; War Declared Between Him and Villa.

The Mexican situation reached a crisis Wednesday when the Peace Conference selected Gutierrez, Villa's favorite, provisional president of Mexico, when the new president immediately made Villa Commander in Chief of the Army.

General Carranza, acting as provisional president, has refused to resign in favor of the newly elected president, on the ground that the peace conference had no power to name a provisional president. War had been declared between Villa and Carranza, and many former followers of Carranza are reported to have turned to Villa. An artillery duel took place between the opposing forces near the American line at Naco, Arizona, and train service over the Mexican lines in the region of the fighting has been suspended.

It was reported also that the American forces would completely evacuate Vera Cruz on Next Monday, the fifteenth, but it is said also that President Wilson will delay the matter until definite status of the latest civil war in Mexico is made known to the government.

Henry Field is Chauffeur.
Chicago, Ill., Nov. 10.—Henry Field, grandson of the late Marshall Field, and one of America's richest boys, is serving as an English Army chauffeur.

TRAMPS ARE TOO NUMEROUS

Several Houses Recently Visited and
The Visitors Have Roughly De-
manded Food; Have Acted Threat-
eningly Toward the Women.

Tramps and house to house beggars have gotten entirely too numerous in this city of late and several stories are afloat as to how a tough looking customer appeared on people's back porches when the men folks were away and roughly demanded food from the women and children and on occasions they have assumed a threatening attitude toward the occupants of the house.

Last Sunday evening about dusk the children of Frank Lewis told their mother that a man was walking around on their screened porch at the back of the house. Mr. Lewis was away from home at the time and Mrs. Lewis went to the door to see what was wanted when the man, a tough looking character, demanded food in the roughest terms, and Mrs. Lewis frightened, slammed the door and locked it, when the man still could be heard walking on the porch. She immediately notified C. C. Hatfield, the nearest neighbor, who came to the scene in time to see the unwelcome visitor beating it out the back way.

This is only one instance in several that have come to the attention of the public. If persons thus visited would immediately notify the police and see that the intruder is attended to according to law, it will help to put a stop to the business.

Cotton Pool Subscriptions

Returns continue to come in in response to telegrams sent out last week by the Chamber of Commerce the Retailers' Association and the Banks of Durant, asking the clearing houses of the North and East to use their best efforts in raising 135 million dollars in cotton loan funds.

The following letter was received by the Retailers' Association this morning from the Kansas City Clearing House:

"Retailers' Association,
Durant, Oklahoma,
Gentlemen:

"Referring to your communication I am pleased to advise that the members of this association have subscribed an aggregate of 1 million dollars to the cotton loan fund and we are using our efforts to get the other cities in our district to secure the \$1,500,000.

"With good wishes for the success of this undertaking and assuring you that it gives us pleasure to render assistance, I am,

JEROME THRALL,
Manager

Hand Injured in Folder

Brans Mason, one of the employees of the News' Mechanical department had the misfortune to injure the index finger and thumb on his right hand Monday night when these men were caught between a rapidly moving cog chain and flanged guide pulley, and severely bruised and skinned. The young man while painfully hurt gave no evidence of hesitating and attended to his regular duties after receiving medical attention.

1914 Average is 192.8 Per Cent.

The yield of all crops in the U. S. in 1914 was 192.3 per cent or 2.3 per cent above the average according to statistics announced today by the Department of Agriculture. The average yield in Missouri was 84.6 per cent, of Kansas 124.3, Alabama 110.1, Mississippi 103.1, Louisiana 103.7, Texas 103.7, Oklahoma 105.6 and Arkansas 96.9.

Death of A. L. Glenn.

A. L. Glenn, one of the city's oldest residents, died at his home on West Main Street at 7:30 o'clock on Wednesday evening after a lingering illness of four months duration. Deceased was past seventy-two years of age. Those surviving are Mrs. Glenn and two children, Lonnie Glenn of this city, and Mrs. Joseph Farr of Dallas, Texas. Funeral services were announced for Thursday afternoon at three o'clock and interment in Highland Cemetery.

THREE ESCAPE FROM CO. JAIL

Three Men Serving Time Full Jail
Voyle Inside, Disarm him and
Make their Get-Away; No Clue as
to their Whereabouts.

As a finale to the disturbance the prisoners created in the county jail last Friday night three prisoners made their get-away from the shack Tuesday morning at 5:30, taking with them the pistol of Jailor Lon Voyle.

The men who escaped were Frank Kelley, serving a six-months sentence and \$200 fine for transportation, and Jack Wynn who was awaiting trial for transporting, and a man going under the name of Walker for the same offense.

Directly after Mr. Voyle had gone on duty the men asked for a bucket of coal, and when he went to open the cell door, with a bucket of coal in his hand, he was jerked inside, his gun taken away from him, after which the cell door was drawn shut. The men then ordered the trustees in the cell after which they departed for parts unknown, and it is hoped by every good citizen that they are still going and that they will be known no more in this section of the country.

Quite a number of prisoners were in the cell but none of the others made any attempt to get away.

The alarm was given immediately and a search for the men was instituted, but so far no trace has been found of them, and it is presumed here that they caught a freight train and have gone to Texas.

This makes the second time the prisoners have made their escape in this manner.

Kelley and Wynn were two of the men who were implicated in the disturbance last week. They were morning and given their first meal since last Friday night. They had been given nothing but bread and water since last Friday night. The other men who were chained up with them were also released and returned to their two meals per day. They were much humbled in spirit and seemed satisfied to get their two meals per day.

Land Sales Held Next Week

The segregated coal and asphalt area of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, otherwise known as Oklahoma's legislative desert, is soon to pass from a tribal domain to private ownership in 640 and 160-acre tracts within the district, underlying the surface of some of it being proven coal and asphalt beds, there are about four hundred and thirty-one thousand acres to be sold. The sales will be by public auction beginning at Stigler, Oklahoma, on November 16.

The acreage in Oklahoma counties is as follows: Haskell, 12,405, LeFlore, 138,000, Latimer, 44,000, Murray, 2,720, Jefferson, 160, Pontotoc, 480 and Johnston, 475. Sales will occur at Stigler, November 16, and 17, and Poteau, November 18, to 21; Wilburton November 22 to 24; McAlester November 25 to 27; Atoka November 28, Coalgate, Nov. 30 and December 1, and Ardmore December 2.

Loveratt's Store Robbed.

The store of A. N. Loveratt at Colbert, was robbed for the second time in the past few months last Tuesday night, when about one hundred dollars worth of merchandise was taken, the robbers making their escape. It is thought from clues left in the store that the job was the work of three or four men, who are thought to have left in a buggy, coming toward Durant. While the posse of men were at Tuska Wednesday, following the clue to the slayer of Miss Pauline Amsel, a man was found who ran when approached and who left a bundle of clothing, knives, and forks, etc., that are identified as having come from the store at Colbert. No arrests have been made as yet.

Carranza Comes Across.

Vera Cruz, Nov. 10.—General Venustiano Carranza has acceded to all the demands of the United States Government in connection with the evacuation of Vera Cruz by the American forces, according to private advices received.

Silks and Dress Goods

The latest weaves and colorings in great
variety from the inexpensive to
better numbers at

10 % Discount

A great many are beginning to figure the great
saving this 10 per cent discount is to them, which is
really and truly 10 per cent less than the price for
which they were made to sell.

Having placed orders with our importers months
before the European strife began, our collection is
most complete with the stylish weaves and colorings
--and now you have the opportunity to own them at
10 per cent off their regular values.

40 in. Crepes and Moires, in leading colors and
patterns \$2.00 quality now, yard **\$1.85**
All silk Crepes, Poplins, Moires, Fancies, Velvets,
and Satins excellent values at \$1.50 now **\$1.35**
\$1.00 values in Crepes, Poplins, Messalines, Taffetas
and Fancies priced now at **90c**
Woolens, Silk and Wool mixtures, Serges, Diagon-
als and Cords good 50c values now **45c**
All Coatings Novelty Suiting, 52, 54, 56 and 60
inches wide in newest novelties from \$1.00 to \$2.50
per yard at 10 per cent discount.

Splendid Stock Trimmings at same reductions.

Place to buy
Raincoats
Rubbers & Shoes

Mercantile Co.
DURANT OKLA.
GOOD THINGS TO WEAR

Millinery prices
at 10 per cent
less than regular